CHAIR • Licenses Committee

VICE CHAIR

• Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development



MILELE A. COGGS ALDERWOMAN, 6TH DISTRICT

October 26, 2020

To the Honorable, the Common Council

Honorable Members:

Common Council File Number 200630 contains the following recommendations:

Nonrenewal, based upon the second nonappearance of the Home Improvement Contractor's and Home Improvement Salesperson licenses for Trais Haire for ("Midwestern Roofing & Construction").

Nonrenewal, based upon the police report, and police and aldermanic testimony of the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises licenses for Ernestine Goodson for the premises located at 9012 W Silver Spring Dr. ("Courtside Bar & Grill") in the 2nd aldermanic district.

Renewal, with a fifteen (15) day suspension, based upon the police report, and aldermanic and applicant testimony of the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises licenses for Debi Damron for the premises located at 2079 S 8th St. ("On My Way Home") in the 12th aldermanic district.

Respectfully,

Milele A. Cogge

Milele Coggs, Chair Licenses Committee

cc: All Council Members File 200630





#### MEMBER

- Finance and Personnel Committee
- Library Board
- Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation Board
- Special Joint Committee on the Redevelopment of Abandoned and Foreclosed Homes
- Steering and Rules Committee
- Wisconsin Center District Board

CHAIR • Licenses Committee

VICE CHAIR
• Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development



MEMBER

- Finance and Personnel Committee
- Library Board
- Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation Board
- Special Joint Committee on the Redevelopment of Abandoned and Foreclosed Homes
- Steering and Rules Committee
- · Wisconsin Center District Board

MILELE A. COGGS ALDERWOMAN, 6TH DISTRICT

Date: October 23, 2020

To: All Members of the Milwaukee Common Council

- From: Licenses Committee
- Re: Report of the Renewal Application of Trais F. Haire, Agent for Midwestern Roofing & Construction Inc., for Home Improvement Contractor's and Home Improvement Salesperson Licenses located at 7384 North 60th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Midwestern Roofing & Construction").

# FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Trais F. Haire (hereinafter the "Licensee") is the holder of a Hotel/Motel license for the premises located at 7384 North 60th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Midwestern Roofing & Construction"). Said licenses expired at midnight on May 23, 2020.
- 2. An application to renew said licenses were filed with the Office of the City Clerk on July 30, 2020.
- 3. Pursuant to Chapters 85 and 275 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances this matter was referred to Milwaukee Police Department for investigation. On August 27, 2020, the Milwaukee Police Department responded with a report that could form the basis for nonrenewal of said licenses.
- 4. On October 8, 2020 the City Clerk provided timely notice to the Licensee pursuant to Chapters 85 and 275 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances of the neighborhood objections. The matter was scheduled for a hearing on the objections on October 20, 2020, commencing at approximately 1:30 p.m. in Room 301B of the third floor of City Hall. At said date, time and place, the Licensee did not appear.
- 5. Based upon failure to appear at the hearing, the Committee recommended the following:
  - A. Alderwoman Dodd moved denial based on second nonappearance. (Prevailed 5-0)





## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Committee has jurisdiction to hold hearings and provided Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and a Recommendation to the full Common Council pursuant to Chapters 85 and 275 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances.
- 2. Based upon the above facts found, the Committee concludes that the Licensee, Trais F. Haire who holds a Home Improvement Contractor's and Home Improvement Salesperson License for the premises located 7384 North 60th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Midwestern Roofing & Construction") has not met the criteria of Chapters 85 and 275 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, to renew. The Committee finds the police report and aldermanic testimony as stated above to be true as stated above. The Committee based its recommendation on the Licensee's second nonappearance.
- 3. In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Milwaukee, it is the recommendation of the Licenses Committee that the full Common Council of the City of Milwaukee should exercise its judgment to not renew the Home Improvement Contractor's and Home Improvement Salesperson Licenses held by Trais F. Haire for the premises located at 7384 North 60th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Midwestern Roofing & Construction"). The Committee based its recommendation on the Licensee's second nonappearance.

### RECOMMENDATION

Based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law stated above, the Committee, by a vote of **five (5) ayes and zero (0) noes** recommends that the Home Improvement Contractor's and Home Improvement Salesperson Licenses of Trais F. Haire for the premises located 7384 North 60th Street ("Midwestern Roofing & Construction") in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin not be renewed.

Said nonrenewal is effective November 4, 2020.

Dated and signed at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 23rd day of October, 2020.

Milele A. Cogge

MILELE A. COGGS Chair, Licenses Committee

/271908



CHAIR • Licenses Committee

VICE CHAIR • Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development



MEMBER

- Finance and Personnel Committee
- Library Board
- Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation Board
- Special Joint Committee on the Redevelopment of Abandoned and Foreclosed Homes
- · Steering and Rules Committee
- Wisconsin Center District Board

MILELE A. COGGS ALDERWOMAN, 6TH DISTRICT

Date: October 23, 2020

To: All Members of the Milwaukee Common Council

From: Licenses Committee

Re: Report of the Renewal Application of the Class "B" Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises (PEP) Licenses of Ernestine Goodson, Agent for Goodson Ventures LLC, for the premises located at 9012 West Silver Spring Drive in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Courtside Bar & Grill").

# FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Ernestine Goodson (hereinafter "the Licensee") is the holder of Class "B" Tavern and PEP Licenses for the premises located at 9012 West Silver Spring Drive in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Courtside Bar & Grill"). Said licenses expired at midnight on October 16, 2020.
- 2. An application to renew said licenses was filed with the Office of the City Clerk on September 9, 2020.
- 3. Pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the matter was referred to the Milwaukee Police Department for investigation. On September 10, 2020, the Milwaukee Police Department responded with a report that could form the basis for nonrenewal of said licenses.
- 4. On October 8, 2020, the City Clerk's Office provided timely notice to the Licensee pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes of the neighborhood objections. The matter was scheduled for a hearing on the objections on October 20, 2020, commencing at approximately 10:55 a.m. in Room 301-B of the third floor of City Hall. At said date, time and place, the Licensee appeared with counsel, Attorney James Toran, at the hearing, and admitted receipt of the notice of hearing.
- 5. Based upon the sworn testimony heard and the evidence received at the hearing, the Committee finds the following:
  - A. On February 20, 202019 at 12:54 a.m. officers observed a large crowd outside 9012 West Silver Spring Drive and they conducted a licensed premise check. The officers were advised a shots fired complaint had just come in at that location. The bar was in disarray with tables turned over and glasses on the floor. The officers





spoke with patrons but no one wanted to give a statement. The staff stated there was talk of a fight and the patron became boisterous so they decided to close for the night. Officers concluded that no shots were fired inside of the bar. The officers assisted the staff clear out the bar without incident.

- B. On March 27, 2019 at 12:45 a.m. officers were dispatched to 9012 West Silver Spring Drive for a complaint the tavern was over capacity. The officers found the business to be under capacity by one person. The Licensee was on scene and decided to close for the night.
- C. On March 27, 2019 at 10:57 p.m. officers went to 9012 West Silver Spring Drive in an attempt to obtain surveillance video for a robbery that occurred outside the location. The bartender stated she did not know how to operate the system and would have someone call the officer.
- D. On April 19, 2019 at 8:39 p.m. officers conducted a licensed premise check at 9012 West Silver Spring Drive. The officers spoke with Jimmy SIMS, who stated his mother is the Licensee, regarding the parking situation and capacity issues. SIMS stated they have been having issues with security and are looking for new staff. He was reminded the capacity was 99 including staff and it was recommended he stop letting patrons inside at 80 to allow them to remain in compliance. He was advised to not allow cars to be double parked in the lot for safety reasons or to allow vehicle to park partially on the sidewalk. The business currently only has eight parking spots on the west side of the building. The Licensee arrived and stated she wanted things to run smoothly, stating it has been hard to find good security staff. The officer advised the Licensee to set up a meeting with the captain. The encounter appeared to be productive.
- E. On June 26, 2019 at 1:55 a.m. officers heard gun shots in the area of N. 92<sup>nd</sup> Street and W. Thurston Avenue which was in the area of Courtside Bar as it was closing. The officers located an auto at 5720 North 91<sup>st</sup> Street with a bullet hole in the driver's side rear door and a subject slumped over in the front passenger seat. The officers checked on the subject who was not injured. The subject stated he was at Courtside drinking and left at closing time. He started to drive away and started to feel sick so he parked his auto and got out of the vehicle and sat in the passenger seat. He stated he did not hear gun shots and did not know when his auto had been struck but stated the damage had not been there prior to parking at Courtside Bar.
- F. On September 27, 2019 officers conducted a license premise check at Courtside Bar, 9012 West Silver Spring Dr. As the officer approached he observed an auto parked on the sidewalk. The officer spoke to security about the parked auto and security had the car removed. The officer then spoke with the Licensee and she stated it was security's job to make sure the cars are legally parked. The Licensee was cooperative and stated she would speak with security to prevent this from occurring.
- G. On September 28, 2019 at 12:28 a.m. officers conducted a license premise check at Courtside Bar and Grill, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive. The officers observed



numerous cars illegally parked and issued 10 citations. Outside the tavern the officers observed a line to get in and additional people standing around the parking lot. When the officers entered they found the tavern wall to wall with patrons. The Licensee was at the door collecting a cover charge. The bar closed at 1:15 a.m. and the officer conducted a count of patrons. The officers counted 237 people exit the tavern, which has a posted capacity of 99. The Licensee was cited for over capacity.

Charge:Licensed Establishment-Exceeding CapacityFinding:WARRANT ISSUEDSentence:Date:Case:20004870

- H. On February 6, 2020 at 10:57 p.m. officers were dispatched to Courtside Bar, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive for a Trouble with Subject. The caller stated the tavern was letting patrons under 25 into the business. The officer entered and observed two security guards at the door checking ID's and searching for weapons. The officer checked the tavern and could not locate anyone under 25 years of age. The employees were cooperative with the officers.
- I. On March 18, 2020 at 8:39 p.m. officers were dispatched to Courtside Bar, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive for a tavern violation. The caller stated there were multiple cars in the parking lot and the business should be closed because of the emergency orders. The officers arrived and did observe several cars in the lot. They knocked on the door and spoke with an employee, who stated the business was closed since March 17, 2020. The officer gave the employee a copy of the emergency order. The officer did not observe any evidence the bar was open.
- J. On March 20, 2020 at 8:10 p.m. officers were dispatched to Courtside Bar, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive for a tavern violation. The caller stated there were multiple cars in the parking lot. The officers arrived and found the business locked, with no lights on. There was no evidence the business was open.
- K. On March 22, 2020 at 9:26 p.m. officers were dispatched to Courtside Bar, 9012 West Silver Spring Dr. for a private party being held at the bar. When the officers arrived they observed cars in the lot and the lights on inside. They made contact with an employee, who stated there was no party, they were all employees and they were just cleaning up. The employee stated there were addition employees downstairs but the door was locked. The employee contacted the people in the basement and they came up. One of the subjects identified himself as Jimmy SIMMS, who stated he was the new owner of the business. SIMMS stated he was aware of the emergency order. The officer counted a total of 16 people in the business. The officer advised SIMMS to comply with the emergency order.
- L. On April 25, 2020 officers were dispatched to Courtside Bar, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive for a business check-covid related. When the officers arrived they found the Licensee on scene. She stated the business was closed and they were

doing renovations. The officers did observe people painting the rear area. The Licensee stated the cars in the lot were for the restaurant next door. The officer did observe that the restaurant was open and people appeared to be waiting in their cars for food.

M. On April 29, 2020 at 9:27 p.m. officers conducted a license premise check at Courtside Bar, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive. The officer observed cars in the parking lot and the district had received an anonymous call of a party at the tavern. When the officers arrived they were let in by an unknown male. There were 6 people in the bar. One subject was a licensed bartender and another that said she was a waitress. The bartender stated they were open for curbside pick- up of food. The officer observed several pieces of chicken on the grill and several subjects said they ordered chicken for pick-up. The officers observed several small clear plastic cups on the bar with a pink/red liquid. The officer spoke with the Licensee by phone but she was not cooperative and stated she would not come to the business. A check of LIRA revealed the business did not have a food dealers license. The Licensee was cited for Food license required and Resisting or Obstructing an Officer.

Charge 1: Food Dealer License Required 2: Resisting or Obstructing an Officer Finding: Initial appearance 10/06/2020 Sentence: Date: Citation 1: 0681X9CGFD 2: 0681X9CGFF

N. On May 27, 2020 at 8:32 p.m. officers responded to Courtside Bar, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive for a report the business was open in violation of the Health Department order. When the officers arrived they observed 11 people inside, 8 of which where patrons with alcohol in glasses on the bar. The bartender stated that he had called the District station and told he could be open since the court had ruled the Governor's order was invalid. The officer advised him of the City of Milwaukee Health Department order was still in effect closing the tavern. The officer observed the tavern was preparing and serving food. A check of LIRA revealed the business had applied for, but had not been issued a food dealers license. The Licensee was issued a citation for Food Dealer License Required.

Charge 1: Food Dealer License Required

Finding: Sentence: Date:

Case: 0681X4DV07

O. On June 29, 2020 an officer conducted follow up at Courtside, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive, regarding an Armed Robbery. The officer spoke with the manager, who stated she did not have access to the camera system. The officer left a business card and advised her to have anyone involve to call him.



- P. One July 12, 2020 officers were dispatched to 9012 West Silver Spring Drive for a tavern check. The caller advised the business was over capacity. When the officers arrived they found the door locked. They waited several minutes for the Licensee to open the door. She stated she locked the door because she did not want to let anyone else inside. She produced her license which showed he capacity at 99. The officers counted the patrons as they left and had a total count of 106. The current health regulations limit capacity to 50%.
- Q. On July 28, 2020 officers investigated a battery which occurred at 9012 West Silver Spring Drive at 12:45 a.m. The victim stated she was at Courtside bar, working as a Stripper. She stated she paid the business at "Tip in Fee" of \$100.00 to allow her to strip at the bar. She stated that three females, who were also stripping at the bar knocked her to the ground and began kicking her. She stated security escorted her out the back door. She stated she was upset with the manager because he did not intervene in the fight. She also stated there was gambling going on in the basement.
- R. On August 7, 2020 at 1:12 a.m. officers were dispatched to a Subject with Gun at 9012 West Silver Spring Dr. The officer located the caller who stated this occurred at 8956 West Silver Spring Drive and involved his current and former girlfriends. •t is unknown if the subjects were customers of Courtside.
- S. On August 10, 2020 officers investigated a theft of firearm from a vehicle parked in front of 5629 North 91<sup>st</sup> Street. The victim stated he parked his auto at 1:15 a.m. and went to Courtside Bar, 9012 West Silver Spring Dr. The victim stated he was 21 yoa. The victim stated he came out to his car at 2:00am and found the window broken. He stated he had a gun in the center console that was now missing. The officer could not locate any cameras that may have captured this incident.
- T. On August 13, 2020 at 9:15 p.m. officers, along with agents from the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, conducted a licensed premise check at Courtside, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive. The officers spoke with the Licensee and advised her of the inspection. The officers located a loaded AR-15 style pistol with two 40-round magazines behind a couch. The Licensee did not know that gun was in the business and the officers inventoried it as abandoned. In the basement the officer observed standing water and a table used for gambling. They also located Hookah pipes and tobacco in the basement. In the walk in cooler the officers observed various food and condiments. The agents located 72 bottles with a Texas tax stamp. The Wisconsin Department of Revenue agents confiscated all the liquor (226 bottles) in the business because the Licensee stated it was not purchased at a wholesale dealer and had no invoices. The Licensee was issued a citation for the sale of tobacco without a license.

Charge:	Cigarette and Tobacco License Required
Finding:	
Sentence:	
Date:	
Case:	0681XHJNL



- U. On September 2, 2020 at 1:59 a.m. officers on patrol heard shots fired in the area of N. 91st St and W. Silver Spring Dr. The officers located numerous casings behind Courtside Bar and Grill, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive. They checked the area and found two rounds went into Courtside, 10 rounds went into Hook Us, a hookah store next to Courtside and several cars and apartments struck in the area. Courtside was closed at the time of the incident but a key holder responded and the officers checked the building. The officers spoke with the employee of Hook Us, who stated he had trouble with a female he had to kick out. Once outside she continued to cause a disturbance. He then heard shots fired. None of the patrons of Hook Us stated they saw anything. The officers had to confiscate the surveillance DVR from Courtside due to a lack of cooperation.
- V. On September 2, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. a meeting was held at District 4 regarding Courtside Bar and Grill, 9012 West Silver Spring Drive. The Licensee was present along with her attorney and former bar manager. The Licensee was advised of the issues with the age restriction and capacity. She was also advised of the lack of cooperation when police are at the business investigating incidents. The manager stated they have been in business for four years and have only been. having problems since the Hookah store opened next to them. The Licensee stated that she has security, who check ID's and she is not aware of any underaged patrons being allowed inside. The Licensee was advised to have security labeled on their clothing and vehicles. The Licensee was advised to enforce the 25 year and older age restriction. The attorney stated they would create an abatement plan in the next 2 weeks.
- W. The Licensee stated she will be changing the age restriction to 30+.

### Appearing with the applicant:

X. Attorney James Toran stated the Licensee is 68 years old and hired Shaun Thomas as a new manager. He added that some of the incidents on the police report were related to the hookah store, not the premises. He stated #16-20 on the police report are false allegations. He added that #25 on the police report was a woman who was mad that she lost a dance contest and there were no strippers. He stated #24 the premises should have been operating at 50% capacity. He added that #21-22 the kitchen is closed and they're no longer serving any food. He stated the Licensee understands she has to do a much better job operating her business, and she is willing to meet with MPD and her new manager. He added that there has been mixed messages from authorities during the Health Emergency. He stated that the Licensee will increase the age limit, will post the cover charge, will have uniformed security, and will only be open 3-4 nights a week. He requests a 60-day suspension to give the Licensee time to get her security plan in place, hire new staff, and comply with COVID-19 guidelines.



### Individuals also present:

- Y. Arlisia McHenry 2nd District Executive Assistant stated there have been many meetings with President Johnson's office and the Licensee and her attorney. She added that in September they met with the Licensee, the City Attorney's Office, other city departments, and MPD regarding all of the issues at the premises, including management, the sale of food without a license, lack of security cameras, parking, security, and Department of Neighborhood Services orders. She stated that the Licensee provided an action after the meeting, but residents are still calling and complaining about noise, trash, and loitering. She added that MPD just emailed about gunshots, robberies, and breaking into vehicles around the premises. She stated that the lack of safety and management, excessive drain on MPD resources, and disruptive behavior is affecting the quality of life for residents in the neighborhood.
- Z. President Johnson stated he went to the premises on August 16th at 1:30 AM and the premises has been a problem establishment for a number of years. He added that the premises has had issues in the past and was closed down. He stated that because of the problems persisting and complaints from residents he decided to visit the premises. He added that he felt really bad when he witnessed what the residents deal with on a daily basis from the patrons of the premises. He stated that the premises was packed and there was very little mask usage. He added that the applicant was uncooperative, argumentative, and refused to answer his questions about safety and capacity. He stated that the applicant kept telling him there was a \$20 cover charge and that she was done with the conversation. He added that illegal parking is an issue and MPD has to do traffic control because of the patrons of the premises. He stated that he is fed up and he recommends nonrenewal.
- AA. Captain Pfeiffer stated in the month that he has been the captain at the district he has come in to contact with numerous residents who are fed up with the premises. He added that residents have been dealing with shots fired, garbage, noise, drug dealing, and other illegal activities at the premises. He added that his officers spend a lot of time dealing with the issues at the premises, and his officers don't have time to baby sit a business.
- BB. Alderman Borkowski moved to amend the application to 30+ age restriction. (Prevailed 5-0)
- CC. Alderwoman Lewis stated the premises is so problematic, poorly ran, and she has driven passed several times and is concerned about the premises. She added that she questions why the premises is still open under current management.
- DD. Alderwoman Lewis moved nonrenewal based on the police report, and police and aldermanic testimony. (Prevailed 5-0)



### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Committee has jurisdiction to hold hearings and provided Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and a Recommendation to the full Common Council pursuant to Chapters 68, 82, 85, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances.
- 2. Based upon the above facts found, the Committee concludes that the Licensee, Ernestine Goodson who holds Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premise (PEP) licenses for the premise located at 9012 West Silver Spring Drive in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Courtside Bar & Grill") has not met the criteria of Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes to not renew the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises License. The Committee finds the police report and aldermanic objections as stated above to be true. The Committee based its recommendation on the police report, aldermanic and police testimony.
- 3. In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Milwaukee, it is the recommendation of the Licenses Committee that the full Common Council of the City of Milwaukee should exercise its judgment to not renew the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premise (PEP) licenses for the premises located at 9012 West Silver Spring Drive in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Courtside Bar & Grill"). The Committee based its recommendation on the police report, aldermanic and policy testimony.

## RECOMMENDATION

Based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law stated above, the Committee, by a vote of **five (5) ayes, and zero (0) noes**, recommends that the Class "B" Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises (PEP) Licenses of Ernestine Goodson for the premises located at 9012 West Silver Spring Drive ("Courtside Bar & Grill") in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin not to be renewed.

Said nonrenewal is effective November 4, 2020.

Dated and signed at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 23rd day of October, 2020.

Milele A. Cogge

MILELE A. COGGS Chair, Licenses Committee

/271897



CHAIR

• Licenses Committee

VICE CHAIR • Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development



MEMBER

- Finance and Personnel Committee
- Library Board
- Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation Board
- Special Joint Committee on the Redevelopment of Abandoned and Foreclosed Homes
- Steering and Rules Committee
- · Wisconsin Center District Board

MILELE A. COGGS ALDERWOMAN, 6TH DISTRICT

Date: October 23, 2020

To: All Members of the Milwaukee Common Council

From: Licenses Committee

Re: Report of the Renewal Application of the Class "B" Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises (PEP) Licenses of Debi Damron, Agent for The Clem-Pank Group LLC, for the premises located at 2079 South 8th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("On My Way Home").

# FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Debi Damron (hereinafter "the Licensee") is the holder of Class "B" Tavern and PEP Licenses for the premises located at 2079 South 8th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("On My Way Home"). Said licenses expire at midnight on November 18, 2020.
- 2. An application to renew said licenses was filed with the Office of the City Clerk on September 3, 2020.
- 3. Pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the matter was referred to the Milwaukee Police Department for investigation. On September 4, 2020, the Milwaukee Police Department responded with a report that could form the basis for nonrenewal of said licenses.
- 4. On October 8, 2020, the City Clerk's Office provided timely notice to the Licensee pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes of the neighborhood objections. The matter was scheduled for a hearing on the objections on October 20, 2020, commencing at approximately 9:55 a.m. in Room 301-B of the third floor of City Hall. At said date, time and place, the Licensee appeared with counsel, Attorney Vincent Bobot, at the hearing, and admitted receipt of the notice of hearing.
- 5. Based upon the sworn testimony heard and the evidence received at the hearing, the Committee finds the following:
  - A. On February 24, 2019 at 2:26 a.m., officers investigated a theft of firearm at On Your Way Home, 2079 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The victim stated he had a gun visible in his pocket while at the tavern. Near closing time, the victim got into an argument with two unknown subjects. One of the subjects grabbed the victim's gun and took it, which caused a physical fight. The victim fled the scene when he could not





retrieve his gun and the suspects also fled the scene. The Licensee stated there is video inside the tavern but she was not able to view it due to a technical problem.

- B. On February 24, 2019 at 4:16 a.m. while investigating a theft of gun complaint at On Your Way Home, 2079 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street, officers observed a shell casing on the ground outside the bar. The Licensee stated the night prior, at about 8:00 p.m., she had kicked out a disorderly patron and then heard a gunshot outside. The subject attempted to get back in the bar but was escorted out by other patrons and did not return.
- C. On June 25, 2019 at 3:46 a.m. officers investigated a battery DV complaint. The victim of that incident stated she was at On Your Way Home, 2079 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street. A about 1:14 a.m. her boyfriend got into a fight with a male subject and she got into a fight with the girlfriend of that subject. Her boyfriend ran into the business and the boyfriend of the girl she was fighting grabbed a gun and struck her to the head with it. He then pointed the gun at her. She was able to return to the tavern and the suspects fled the scene. The Licensee came to the scene and provided the video of the incident to the officers.
- D. On July 30, 2019 at 4:44 a.m. officers investigated a damage to property at 2079 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The upstairs tenant called and stated he heard glass breaking downstairs. The officers found the window broken and called the Licensee. She arrived on scene and stated it appeared no one entered and nothing was missing. She was not able to access the video at this time and stated she would try and email the officers the video at a later time.
- E. On September 7, 2019 at 2:35 a.m. officers conducted a license premise check at On My Way Home, 2079 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street, because officers observed ten patrons exiting after closing time. The officers entered and found only the bartender inside. She stated she was having troubles getting the patrons out at closing. The bartender was advised to have the patrons out before closing.
- F. On April 4, 2020 at 1:10 p.m. officers were dispatched to On My Way Home, 2079 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street, for the bar being open in violation of the Governor's Safer at Home order. The officer observed through a window 4-5 people seated at the bar drinking. The officer knocked several times but no one came to the door, which was locked. The officer observed the subjects inside get up and walk out of his view. The officer sat outside for several minutes but observed no further activity.
- G. On April 6, 2020 at 1:13 pm officers conducted a license premise check at On My Way Home, 2079 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street, regarding the April 4, 2020 incident. When the officer arrived he found the door locked but observed several patrons inside with open bottles of beer. The officers knocked and the bartender opened the door. The bartender stated the subjects were just doing maintenance. The Licensee then came out of the bathroom. The officer advised the business was open in violation of the Safer at Home order. The Licensee stated she did not know her boyfriend was opening the bar. The Licensee was advised of the April 4, 2020 incident, to which the bartender denied knowing the police were there. The Licensee was advised to



keep the bar closed until the order was lifted and she stated that this could shut her bar down.

H. On April 10, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. officers conducted a license premise check at On My Way Home, 2079 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The officer found the door locked and the light off. The officer knocked and the bartender opened the door. The bartender allowed officers to check the property for patrons and the officer found the tavern to be empty. The bartender stated he is aware of the order and he would remain closed.

### Appearing with the Licensee:

I. Attorney Vincent Bobot stated that in #5 on the police report the bartender was advised that patrons must be out by 2 AM and the Licensee has since been diligent about complying with the closing time. He added that #6-7 on the police report were people doing maintenance at the premises, and the Licensee was unaware of that the workers were sitting at the bar drinking. He stated that they were no open for business and no money was taken from the workers. He added that they should not have been drinking while they were working. He stated #8 on the police report shows compliance. He added that Howard Zanzig is the previous owner and he is mad at the Licensee and has threatened to close her down. He stated that Mr. Zanzig calls and complains to Alderman Perez to get the premises shut down. He added that the Licensee has a written COVID-19 plan and is compliant with the plan in its totality. He stated that the Licensee has made significant improvements to the premises and the conduct of the patrons.

### Individual also present:

- J. Alderman Perez stated the Licensee should know better than to have people in her establishment drinking during a Emergency Health Order. He added that the Licensee received a suspension last year and she was warned that if management was not tightened up there would be progressive discipline. He stated that a suspension is in order.
- K. Alderwoman Lewis stated that it is troublesome that during the Safer at Home Emergency Order the Licensee had people drinking beer at the premises.
- L. Alderwoman Lewis moved approval with a 15-day suspension based on the police report, aldermanic and applicant testimony. (Prevailed 5-0)

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Committee has jurisdiction to hold hearings and provided Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and a Recommendation to the full Common Council pursuant to Chapters 68, 82, 85, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances.
- 2. Based upon the above facts found, the Committee concludes that the Licensee, Debi Damron who holds Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premise (PEP) licenses for



the premise located at 2079 South 8th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("On My Way Home") has not met the criteria of Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes to not renew the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises Licenses without undergoing a fifteen (15) day suspension. The Committee finds the police report and aldermanic objections as stated above to be true. The Committee based its recommendation on the police report, aldermanic and applicant testimony.

3. In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Milwaukee, it is the recommendation of the Licenses Committee that the full Common Council of the City of Milwaukee should exercise its judgment to not renew the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premise (PEP) licenses for the premises located at 2079 South 8th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("On My Way Home"), without undergoing a fifteen (15) day suspension. The Committee based its recommendation on the police report, aldermanic and applicant testimony.

### RECOMMENDATION

Based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law stated above, the Committee, by a vote of **five (5) ayes, and zero (0) noes**, recommends that the Class "B" Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises (PEP) Licenses of Debi Damron for the premises located at 2079 South 8th Street ("On My Way Home") in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin not to be renewed without undergoing a fifteen (15) day suspension.

The suspension is in effect between 12:01 a.m. on November 19, 2020 until 11:59 p.m. on December 3, 2020.

Dated and signed at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 23rd day of October, 2020.

Milele A. Cogge

MILELE A. COGGS Chair, Licenses Committee

/271895

